FWP FISHING CLOSURE CONSIDERATIONS FLOW CHART

For Cold Water Streams in Summer Low Flow Conditions

Stream has a site-specific low flow/drought response plan with FWP approved fishery management recommendations (e.g. Big Hole, Jefferson, Blackfoot). Condition: Classified as "Critical Salmonid Stream". Stream supports

Action: Implement management plan.

important recreational fishery and/or species of special concern.

Summer flows and/or temperature are expected to create excessively stressful conditions for fish. Stream receives sufficient pressure that angling will add an unacceptable lethal threat to adult fish in drought conditions.

Action - Watch Included in FWP drought reportina.

Active FWP temperature and flow monitoring, and low flows response planning if applicable.

Condition:

Thresholds for flow and/or temperatures are reached. Angling pressure continues to be significant and detrimental to fish health.

- Flow threshold = 95% monthly exceedence level.
- Temperature threshold = maximum daily water temperature equals or exceeds 73 degrees F (23 degrees C) for three consecutive days.

and/or

- In critical bull trout spawning and rearing streams, maximum daily temperature equals or exceeds 60 degrees F (15 degrees C) for three consecutive days. Fish are concentrating and vulnerable in cold water refuges.

Action - Mandatory Closure

Applicable when priority streams reach flows or temperature thresholds. Post restrictions at access points and distribute to shops, outfitters, etc. Monitor effects of restrictions at least three times weekly.

> Time of Day Closure prohibits angling between the hours of 12:00PM (Noon) and 12:00AM (Midnight).

Full Closure prohibits all angling. Necessary to protect fishery resource.

Lifting of Summer Closures;

Closures will be lifted on September 15 unless an earlier/later date is designated by the FWP Commission for a specific water.

Broader application of closure may be necessary to address overcrowding on open water in extreme drought conditions. Appropriate levels of response to this issue will be based on further discussion.